



Support Services

BLM Library
Denver Federal Center
Bldg 50, OC-521
P.O. Box 25047
Denver, CO 80225



Fire

BLM manages fire on more than 380 million acres of Federal and non-Federal lands in 10 Western States and Alaska.

Through its Fire program, BLM -

- Suppresses over 2,700 damaging and unwanted wildfires a season, which consume an average of one million acres a year.
- Conducts an average 700 prescribed wildfires for forestry, wildlife, range management, and hazard reduction each year.
- Owns and operates the Boise Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho, the center of Federal fire suppression efforts in the U.S., and the Alaska Fire Service, the major fire protection organization in Alaska.
- Develops new fire technology including: the computerized Initial Attack Management System with integrated lightning detection and fire prediction; "Ram Air" parachutes with enhanced maneuverability; and new suppressant technologies including fire foams.



Aviation

BLM manages a large aviation program that includes Department owned and contracted aircraft which are used to support all BLM programs.

Through its Aviation program, BLM -

- Coordinates exclusive use of over 60 contracted and 6 Department owned aircraft, and over 200 incidental charters per year.
- Supports Bureauwide aviation needs, with 65 percent of aircraft use in the fire program and 35 percent in resource management programs.



Cadastral Survey

BLM creates, restores, marks and defines the boundaries of the 272 million acres under its stewardship and provides official boundary surveys for all Federal agencies.

- As successor to the General Land Office, BLM maintains more than one billion official Public Land Survey System records covering 30 States. These records are in constant demand as the basis for resurveys or new surveys and for research in land title, Federal mineral ownership, and genealogy.
- In Alaska, BLM is involved in the largest peacetime conveyance of land in history; 148 million acres will be transferred to the State and native corporations.
- There is the urgent need to resurvey over 50 million acres in order to identify the boundaries so that the land can be managed more efficiently.
- Approximately 360 million acres of the U.S. have never been surveyed, mostly in Nevada and Alaska.
- BLM is a leader in modern surveying technology, using global positioning systems, inertial guidance systems, and state-of-the-art measuring instruments.



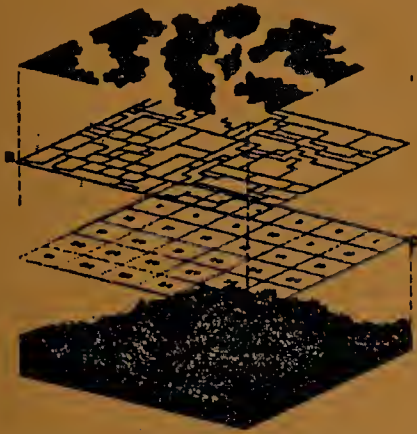
Hazardous Materials

BLM operates to protect the public health and safety and the environment from hazardous materials on the public lands.

Through the hazardous materials management program, the BLM is engaged in the following:

- Discovery and inventory of contaminated sites. Currently there are 241 such sites officially listed, with over 30 being added annually.
- Study and cleanup of contaminated sites. BLM has over 50 assessments and investigations underway each year, as well as a similar number of emergency removals and cleanups.
- Prevention of contamination, injury, and liability. BLM is working to prevent or control waste disposal on the public lands and to ensure that polluters pay as much of the cost of remediation as possible. Actions are being taken to protect employees and members of the public from the risk of contact with hazardous substances in their daily activities in the field.
- BLM is initiating environmental audits at its own offices, warehouses, and other facilities. The audits will identify the hazardous materials that may be present, outline methods for safe storage and handling, and recommend ways to reduce waste.

Land Information Systems



BLM maintains a vast records system used by land managers to make complex decisions about a variety of competing and often conflicting resource uses. To manage this information BLM has made a long-term commitment to a fully automated Land Information System (LIS). LIS has three parts:

- The automated **Geographic Coordinate Data Base (GCDB)** linking records and resource data to the legal descriptions of land parcels.
- The **Automated Land and Mineral Record System (ALMRS)** providing ownership and land status information (such as mineral leases, rights-of-way, and wilderness designations).
- The **Automated Resource Data (ARD)** providing information about resource values and uses of the BLM-managed public lands (such as wildlife habitat, cultural sites, wild horse herds).
- These three parts are supported by the BLM's **Resource Base Data (RBD)** which includes the topography, transportation networks, hydrography, and cultural infrastructures derived from USGS quadrangles, aerial photography, remote sensing, and other mapping techniques.
- By improving data management, LIS will improve the quality of land use planning and decision-making and the efficiency of day-to-day operations.
- BLM is currently in the process of modernizing its automated data processing capabilities to better meet both agency and public needs.



Law Enforcement

Using special agents and rangers, BLM enforces Federal laws and regulations relating to the public land resources.

- In 1990 BLM worked with other Federal and local officials to eradicate illegal drugs from the public lands in California, Oregon, and other Western States.
- BLM also investigated the destruction, theft, and sale of archaeological artifacts along with other types of unauthorized uses.
- BLM provided visitor services and assistance at recreation sites and other popular outdoor use areas.

Planning

BLM develops, maintains, and revises long-term land use plans. Approximately 65 Resource Management Plans have been developed to guide the management and use of the public lands to date.



- BLM is committed to the completion of 136 Resource Management Plans (RMPs) to guide the management of the public lands by approximately 1997.
- The RMPs are the mechanism for allocating resources and selecting appropriate uses of those lands, for resolving conflicts among the multiple uses of the public lands, for ensuring that they are preserved for future generations, and for designating and protecting areas of critical environmental concern.
- Public participation and environmental analysis to address the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act are primary elements of the planning process.

Engineering

BLM constructs and maintains various facilities in support of resource management objectives and needs. These facilities include buildings, outdoor recreational facilities, roads, trails, bridges, airstrips, helispots, dams, pipelines, fences, water wells, catchments, and other types of facilities.



- Facilities are planned, designed, constructed, and maintained by BLM and contract employees.
- Facilities range in size from very small and relatively insignificant structures to administrative complexes involving several buildings, including multi-story office buildings.
- BLM has recently developed an automated system for maintenance activities. This system will assist BLM in maintaining an inventory of facilities and in planning for needed maintenance.

Safety

BLM provides for the occupational and environmental safety and health of 10,000 regular employees, 14,000 temporary wildland firefighters, 14,000 volunteers, and over 57,000,000 visitors annually on 272 million acres of public lands. BLM's Safety program provides -



- Programs to ensure safe practices for firefighters from BLM and other participating fire suppression organizations.
- Programs and educational activities to enable the public to safely use and enjoy the BLM public lands.